

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Steven L. Nichols (Reg. No. 40,326) on July 1, 2009.

2. The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 1

A system for detecting potential counterfeiting of print cartridges comprising at least one printing device programmed to:

read date information from an installed print cartridge,

read a current date from a clock in said printing device,

compare said date information and said current date to determine if a difference between said date information and said current date exceeds a threshold,

transmit a message to a monitoring server if a difference between said current date and said date information exceeds said threshold,

wherein said monitoring server is programmed to analyze said message from said printing device for patterns indicative of counterfeiting of print cartridges.

Cancel Claim 2.

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Claim 3, line 1, “The system of claim 2” has been changed to -- The system of claim 1 --.

Claim 4, line 1, “The system of claim 9” has been changed to -- The system of claim 1 --.

Claim 6, line 3, “a print cartridge installed” has been changed to -- said installed print cartridge --.

Claim 7, line 1, “The system of claim 9” has been changed to -- The system of claim 1 --.

Claim 8, line 1, “The system of claim 9” has been changed to -- The system of claim 1 --.

Cancel Claim 9.

Claim 10, line 1, “The system of claim 9” has been changed to -- The system of claim 1 --.

Claim 11, line 1, “The system of claim 9” has been changed to -- The system of claim 1 --.

Cancel Claims 12 and 13.

Claim 22

A method for detecting potential counterfeiting of print cartridges, said method comprising:

reading ~~data~~date information from a print cartridge in a printing device;

reading a current date from a clock;

comparing said date information and said current date to determine if a difference between said current date and said date information exceeds a predetermined threshold; ~~and indicating a potentially counterfeit print cartridge.~~

generating a message indicating a potentially counterfeit print cartridge if the difference exceeds said threshold.

Claim 14

The method of claim 22, further comprising transmitting ~~a~~said message regarding said date information stored on ~~a~~said print cartridge installed in ~~a~~said printing device, said message being transmitted to a monitoring server.

Claim 16, line 2, “messages from monitored printing devices” should be --
messages said message from ~~monitored~~ said printing devices device --;

Cancel Claims 25-31.

Claim 39

Processor-readable instructions stored on a medium for storing processor-readable instructions, said instructions, when executed, causing a processor to:

read date information from a print cartridge installed in a printing device,
read a current date from a clock, ~~and~~

compare said date information and said current date to determine if a difference between said current date and said date information exceeds a predetermined threshold indicative of expiration of an expected useful life of said print cartridge,

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transmit a message to a monitoring server if the difference between said current date and said date information exceeds said predetermined threshold, and
wherein said monitoring server is programmed to analyze said message from said printing device for patterns indicative of counterfeiting of print cartridges.

Claim 40, line 1, "The instructions of claim 42" has been changed to -- The instructions of claim 39--;

Cancel Claims 42, 45 and 46.

Claim 47

The instructions of claim 39, wherein-said instructions, when executed, causing a said monitoring server to:

receive said messages message from ~~a population of monitored~~ said printing devices device, wherein said ~~messages message~~ include- includes said date information from ~~a~~ said print cartridge installed in ~~a monitored~~ said printing device, and

analyze said messages message from ~~monitored printing devices~~ said printing device for patterns indicative of counterfeiting of print cartridges.

ALLOWANCE

Allowable Subject Matter

3. **Claims 1, 3-8, 10, 11, 14-24, 32-41, 43, 44, 47 and 48** are allowed. These claims will be renumbered as 1-33.

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record do not teach or suggest the claim limitation of said message indicating a potentially counterfeit print cartridge if the difference exceeds said threshold.

The features identified, in combination with other claim limitations, are neither suggested nor discussed by the prior art of record.

5. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to CHAN S. PARK whose telephone number is (571)272-7409. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8am-4:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward Coles can be reached on (571) 272-7402. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/CHAN S PARK/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2625

July 1, 2009